World Bank loan for irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

†3394. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Water Commission (CWC) has accorded approval to some fresh irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for getting loans from World Bank;

(b) if so, the amount of loan sought and the names of the other States which have sought the loans; and

(c) the number of irrigation projects likely to be completed through the above mentioned loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No fresh irrigation project proposal for getting World Bank loans has been received from the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during the last three years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present seven irrigation projects are under implementation in various States namely Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh with World Bank assistance in the country.

Appointment of Chairman ICICI to study the financial aspect of inter-linking of rivers

3395.SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether ICICI Chairman has been appointed to study financial aspects of the project on inter-linking of country's rivers;

(b) whether any group of engineers to study the technical feasibilities of the project has also been appointed; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The Union Government has set-up a Task Force on inter-linking of rivers on December 13, 2002. The Task Force has the following terms of reference :

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.